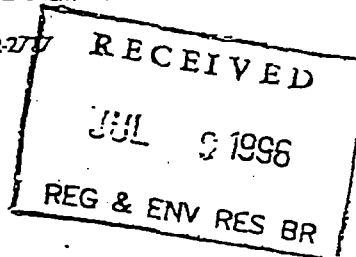




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
ENVIRONMENTAL & TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION
525 NE Oregon Street
PORTLAND, OREGON 97232-2737

JUN 26 1996



F/NW03

Colonel Timothy L. Wood
Corps of Engineers, Portland District
Attn: Ms. Judy Linton
P.O. Box 2946
Portland, Oregon 97208-2946

RE: 96-496, Maintenance Dredging of Port of Portland Terminal
Six in the Columbia River at Portland, Oregon

Dear Colonel Wood:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed the subject Public Notice in which the applicant (Port of Portland) proposes to dredge a total of 100,000 cubic yards of sand over a five year period from the front of Terminal Six in the Columbia River at Portland, Oregon. Our comments are based on NMFS' responsibility for the protection and enhancement of marine, estuarine and anadromous fishery resources and their habitats.

The NMFS has no objection to the issuance of a permit for this project provided that all sediments are tested each year prior to any dredging.

This letter is our response under the authority given to us through the Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661-666c; 48 Stat. 401) to review and comment as to the effects on fish and wildlife from activities proposed or permitted by the Corps of Engineers (COE). This response does not relieve the COE of its obligations to comply with the procedures set forth in the Endangered Species Act (Part 402 of the CFR) or the substantive requirements of section 7. Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon, Snake River fall chinook salmon, and Snake River sockeye salmon have been listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act and occur in the project vicinity. Therefore, please determine if this action may affect the listed Snake River salmon species; if so, please initiate consultation in writing with the Habitat Conservation Branch of this office pursuant to 50 CFR 402.14.

USEPA SF



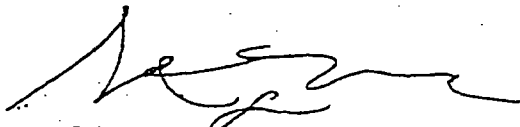
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Questions regarding this letter should be directed to Ben Meyer at (503) 230-5425.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Holmes Gaar
Habitat Branch Chief

cc: USFWS - Portland
ODFW - D. Bennet